

# THE BELL RINGER

Montgomery Bell Academy

4001 Harding Road Nashville, TN 37205

September 22, 2000

Volume 57, Number 1

## New Driving Laws Are Bad News For Underclassmen

by Ted Tywang

Even though it doesn't really concern any of you upper classmen, a recent source of great discussion and frustration and, yes, even outrage, for about three-fourths of the freshman class is the newly instated graduated license driving law. For those born on or after July 1st of 1985, a new, very stifling law has been recently passed. The law regards issues such as when we can drive, whom we can drive with, and even where we can drive. The old law was so easy; get your permit at fifteen, and your license at 16. Why did the government have to go and mess with that? The beauty of the old law was its simplicity. Although, with the new law you still get your permit at fifteen, before getting a full license, you now have to get an intermediate license for at least a year. And, with this intermediate license comes so many unnecessary rules and regulations. A list of just some of these rules follows: - Those with an intermediate license can only have one passenger in the vehicle. UNLESS:

\*One or more of the passengers is age 21 and has a valid, unrestricted license;

\*The passengers are related in some way and the driver has written permission from a parent or legal guardian to transport their siblings; - Those with an intermediate license are prohibited from driving between the hours of 11 p.m. and 6 a.m. UNLESS:

\*They are accompanied by a parent or guardian;

\*They are accompanied by a licensed driver 21 or older designated by a parent in writing;

\*They are driving to or from work and have a note from a parent;

\*They are driving from a school function and have a note from a parent;

\*They are driving to or from a hunting or fishing trip and have a valid hunting or fishing license.

-A driver must have an intermediate license for a minimum of one year. Then the driver can apply for an unrestricted intermediate license, which he also has to have for

year.

-Any drivers with an intermediate license who are found with a forged or fraudulent letter, or those drivers who are found disobeying any of the seemingly endless driving laws WILL have their intermediate license revoked and given a learners permit until they are 18. So basically, you get the gist of the new laws; all the privileges kids look forward to when they get a car have just been eliminated in one fell swoop by the Tennessee government.

The one question I can think of is, why did they do it? The government has been using the cop-out of safety as their reason to enforce the new law. But I mean, really, who cares about safety when a very small portion of your grade is absconding with all the girls because they were born two months before you! Frankly, with the advent of the new laws, which take effect on July 1, 2001, Tennessee doesn't sound good to me.

## In Case You You Hadn't Heard

by Josh Rosenblatt

For those of us who do not watch TV, surf the net, avoid human



Bush will try to avenge his father's loss in 1992 to the same administration.

contact, and can not successfully divide by four, it is election time. The white

house is up for grabs, and unless you think Pat Buchanan or Ralph Nader has a chance (and if you do you are an idiot) the next President will either be Al Gore or George W. Bush.

Unlike the 1996 elections where the country laughed at Bob Dole and then his E.D. commercials, this years race is neck and neck.

The close competition is a stark change, however, from the majority of this year, where Bush held a double digit lead in the polls. The language in the media has shifted from Bush looking like a "shoe-in" and Gore a "stiff" to Bush looking "weak and insecure loser" and Gore looking like "our next president." (I am trying not to be biased, but oh well.) The country will make most of the decision for itself when the presidential debates roll around.

The word on the debates is simple, the country expects Gore to make Bush look like a freaking idiot. This perception could make or break either candidate, however. If Gore does make Bush his tool, then expect a jump in the polls for Gore. If, on the other hand, Bush looks like only a modest

fool or better, it could look like Gore is not all he is cracked up to be. The polls could then swing for Bush.



Gore looks to be the fourth United States President from Tennessee.

History proves that the debates can make the difference. Kennedy was said to look more presidential in the debates, and that's why he won by a slim margin.

Either way, the race is in its last lap, and as of now it is too close to call.

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## New Food Service A Hit

by Daniel Rosenblatt

The new food service at MBA is a great improvement from last year.



Mark Hill of Sage Services

If you are like most MBA students, you take pride in how much you can eat. Now with Sage, barriers will be broken with the unlimited seconds policy. In addition, the food not only tastes good, but it also looks good unlike the chicken rings of the past. MBA now has a deli bar that rivals of Jersey Mike's and Subway. The deli bar also prepares students for jobs at Jersey Mike's and Subway by brushing up on technique and speed.



The new menu has everyone raving.

To ease the worries of parents, Chris Lefferts, who is expected to break one hundred pounds this year, says, "The great selection meets my nutritional values." When students in eighth period study hall was interviewed, several students were eager to express their delight to actually see food during sixth period.

(continued on p. 2)

## Cafeteria

(continued from p.1)

Matthew Barnes had only three words to say about the new food service: "yucky,恶心,恶心."

However, the new food



Behind the beautiful deli bar.

service does still have some drawbacks. For example, the lines are incredibly long, making it difficult to take advantage of getting seconds. Either the wait needs to be shortened, or the lunch period needs to be longer. The continued absence of candy has also been noticed. The last problem is that of eating too much. Many students are complaining about putting on weight.

All in all, the new food service is a much-needed improvement to the MBA dining experience. In the words of Mr. T, "I pity the fool who is not signed up for this lunch extravaganza."

## News Briefs

## Upcoming Assemblies

On Monday, October 2, Dr. Howard Cochran will be speaking to the student body and faculty about community service. He directs a program in which working adults can complete their degree through Web-mediated instruction and by attending class on weekends. Cochran, who is a professor of Economics at Belmont University, has recently traveled to Bangladesh to study the practice of relationship banking in coping with poverty.

In this next assembly, Andy Gray will be talking about his trip this summer to Bolivia.

## National Merit Semi-finalists Announced

On Wednesday, September 13, the National Merit Scholarship Foundation announced this year's semi-finalists. The Class of 2001

had a strong showing with fifteen. These seniors included Jamie Atkinson, Chris Balensie, Jesse Bug, Andrew Conrad, Jamie Dickens, Adam Diehl, Ryan Holt, Paul Johnson, Scott Lewis, Thompson Paine, James Parrot, Paul Pope, Stephen Smith, Jeff Sweeney, Sameer Vakroth.

These fifteen students will be notified this winter on whether they are finalists.

## Service Club Gears Up For Action

The Service Club has a range of projects this fall in which MBA students can get involved.

On October 7, 8, 14, 15, 21, 22, 23 and 29, Habitat For Humanity will be building a house. If you would like to participate, pick up forms in the office.

The Service Club will be helping out with the Southern Book Festival on October 12 and 13, from 5:00-7:00p.m.

The St. Vincent DePaul meeting program is open to all every Monday through Thursday, from 3:30

to 3:50 p.m.

You can also participate in Vanderbilt and Titans parking, which takes place every home game, beginning three hours before game time.

If you are interested in any of these opportunities, see Sameet Vakroth or any of the other Service Club officers for more details. The Service Club here at MBA does great work, and everyone who helps out with these projects has a great time.

## International Visitors on Campus

Mr. Scott Gantton, a teacher from the The Southport School in Australia, where Mr. Bill Cottrell went this summer, will be visiting MBA for three weeks.

MBA will also have on its campus, a student from Michael House School in South Africa, where Miller Harris and Jamie Dickens studied this summer. Nick Ash will be taking junior and senior classes for almost three months on the hill.

## Philosophy Club Boldly Starts A New Year

by Jesse Bull

Last year William Lea started the juggernaut of student participation and enthusiasm that was the Philosophy Society. In a total of two—count 'em, 2—meetings, the society garnered interest from nearly 20 individuals. However, in all seriousness, considering the busy schedules that most MBA students have, there did seem to be a fair amount of interest in the intellectual



Bull, along with Gibblet the Great, Chris Balensie, Jamie Dickens, Stephen Smith and Schmitz will try to enlighten MBA this year.

conversations. On his precedent, a few seniors (notably the society's directing philosophes—Gibblet the Great, Chris Balensie, Stephen Smith, Jonathan Schmitz, and myself) are attempting to further develop the meetings this year.

We will start out with baby steps— one meeting each quarter. Hopefully enough participation will encourage even more. The basic goal of this organization will be to have informal discussions, possibly led by a former professor at Vanderbilt, about whatever topics interest the people who show up.

We could talk about fun stuff like reason vs. emotion, materialism vs. spiritualism, the deepest inner thoughts of MBA cheerleaders (brief discussion), the nature of time, the moral issues concerning genetic research, poor men, race issues, or just

whatever. If you have opinions on anything, the philosophy meetings will be a good place to share them.

I know there are plenty of people out there who would like to listen in on the Tao of Tee. When the learned Tee Tompkins said, "There's no way in hell I'm going to a philosophy meeting," I made the mistake of foolishly stereotyping him. But he immediately put me to shame with his wisdom—"Any fool can create a law, and any fool will obey it." Tee, I hope you will come out and share some more morsels with us. You might even hear from B.J. Phillips who infamously remarked, "Stupid is as stupid does." Of Graham Worsham who, in the tradition of great philosophes such as Rousseau and Voltaire, claims, "I am familiar with the Pythagorean Theorem."

The MBA student body has a reputation for being comprised of

students who enjoy and participate in all aspects of the high school experience—from athletics, to arts, to academics. This opportunity will serve as just another outlet for you to diversify your activities and will hopefully be an intellectual setting that will summarize beyond the monotony of school.

The meetings will provide a serious venue to argue and discuss your views. Please take advantage of what your fellow students have to offer in their diverse opinions. So if you're looking for a good time on a school night and you want to be intellectually aroused, follow Berg's advice—"Don't sweat the small things," and come talk some hardcore philosophy.

\*Listen to the announcements for further information concerning the whereabouts and time of the first meeting.

## Outing Club Braves the Dangers of the Wilderness

by Andy Gray

The weekend of September 9-10, seven students accompanied by two faculty members fearlessly set out on a sixteen-mile hike to brave the wilderness of the Savage Gulf. Students Andy Gray, Allen Callison, Peter Power, Chris Power, Andrew Dunn, Evan Hagemayer, and Christoph Schmitz and faculty Mr. Russell and Mr. Womack completed the overnight hike and returned alive and well despite a few harrowing moments.

This trip should began a series of monthly ventures planned and undertaken by the rejuvenated MBA Outing Club. Following an early departure time of 7:30 a.m. and a quiet drive to the park, the group set off at a good pace. For those unacquainted with

the Savage Gulf, a number of

group finally arrived at the first outlook and met the first scourge of

countless terrifying and painful moments throughout the trip: yellow jackets. With a fury and determination to inflict misery reminiscent of certain MBA athletic coaches

even preventing several campers from sleeping inside their tents, which the bees designated as new hives.

Everyone succeeded, amazingly, in bringing enough food to last the entire trip. The weather, although a bit warm, overall turned out to be nearly ideal for hiking and camping. Sprinkling throughout the early morning cooled the weather down nicely.

The author of this article survived with no fewer than five varieties of bug bites, and undoubtedly not a single member of the trip came home unbitten. Sunday afternoon, however, all returned more or less intact, refreshed by a few hours in the wilderness.

The Outing Club surveys its domain after a long hike.

outstanding vistas provide excellent views of the canyon as well as prime photo opportunities.

A few miles into the hike, the

swarmed over everyone and forced us to move inland in order to eat lunch. To our dismay, however, the bees followed us throughout our journey,



## Debate Team Impressive in First Outing

by Paul Johnson

The MBA debate team made its initial jaunt of the year to go to Wake Forest for their first tournament.

After a grueling bus ride which ended in our dreary-eyed arrival at the Winston-Salem Courtyard by Marriott at some ungodly hour, sleep was had by all. Waking refreshed and full of vigor in the morning, the team set out to meet its goal of crushing the competition. The Varsity, Junior Varsity, and Extemporaneous speaking squads did battle for three days, encountering numerous opposing teams, mediocre restaurants, and other obstacles.

Most notable of all the occurrences was the dinner had by three debaters at the elegant China Hut of Winston-Salem. It was very clear to us after our dining experience that Chinese food was definitely not at its best in the state of North Carolina. Others dined at Elizabeth's, a very fine Italian restaurant located next to the shady Chinese venue. When all the smoke and bad eating was cleared, the MBA team had scored several competitive successes.

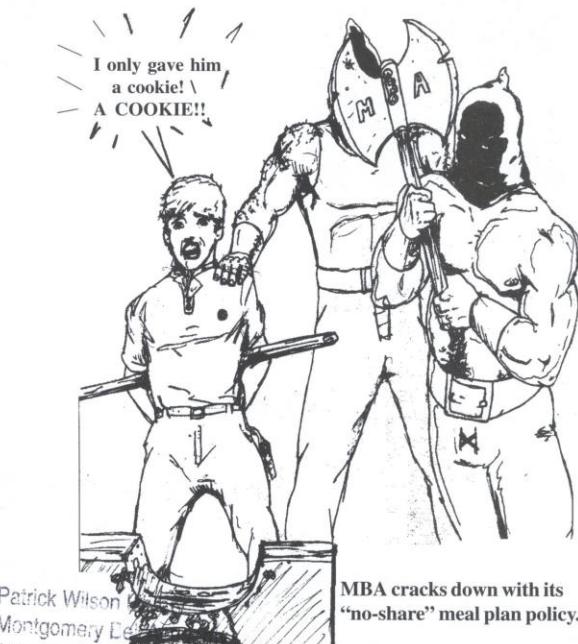
In the Extemporaneous speaking division, Jonathan Mott cleared as a high seed and advanced to the quarterfinals in a highly competitive field. In the Junior Varsity policy division, the team of Vivek Surti and Jamie "Wood" Carroll advanced to the finals before losing in a hotly contested 2-1 decision. The team of Chris "Che"

Emfinger and David McNamee and that of Joe "Joverton" Overton and Michael "Very Aware" Ross also competed and scored some victories. In the Varsity policy division, three teams advanced to the elimination rounds, with Trey Tally and Paul Pope unfortunately hitting the unit of Scott Lewis and Josh Rosenblatt in the double octafinals. Paul Johnson and Ian McDaniel also advanced to the eliminations. "PEJ" and "Da Mammoth" (Johnson and McDaniel) lost in the octafinals on a very shady decision, as Lewis and Rosenblatt advanced to the Quarterfinals capturing a prestigious bid to the Tournament of Champions in May.

Notable speakers included Paul Pope as 18th in the Varsity division, and Paul Johnson, who captured 5th speaker.

Overall, despite Mr. Coverstone's threat to destroy a certain OPM CD, and Scott Lewis' cries of "Get your hands up..." during the long van ride, the trip was thoroughly enjoyable and a competitive success.

## THE BURKHALTER



Patrick Wilson  
Montgomery Elementary  
4001 Harding Road  
Nashville, TN 37205

MBA cracks down with its  
"no-share" meal plan policy.

## Some New and Old Faces Enrich Faculty

by Steven Syverud

This year there are some new faces among MBA's faculty- eleven new faces to be exact. These twelve faces bring the number of MBA teachers to 112 and lower MBA's teacher to student ratio to roughly six students per teacher. But these teachers are more than just faces, each of them has an interesting life story as well.

In addition to serving as advisor to the International Club, Pamela Gomez is the new Spanish teacher at MBA, but her lingual abilities do not stop with Spanish: she is fluent in Spanish and French. Perhaps Dick Klausner, who



**Ms. Pamela Gomez**

taught her at Francis W. Parker School in San Diego, is responsible for influencing her love of language.

Grey Carter is providing technology assistance throughout MBA this year, teaching several computer education classes in the Junior School, and assisting our swimming program. Mr. Carter is experienced in the field of Nashville area High Schools. He attended David Lipscomb High School, served as technology instructor at Overbrook school, and served as head swimming coach at Brentwood High School. Knowledge of area high schools indeed runs in his family, as his wife, Melanie works at Overbrook.



**Mr. Grey Carter**

Leslie Gulvas is teaching Physical and Earth Sciences to junior schoolers this year. Like Mr. Carter, Ms.

Gulvas is a secondary school expert of sorts. In the last six years she has taught Middle School science in international schools in Guam and the Netherlands. Education was not actually Ms. Gulvas's original field of work. Before getting a Bachelor of Education from the University of Toledo she worked in the business and industrial world for fifteen years.

Malcolm Morrison is teaching Freshman and Junior English as well as working with MBA's drama programs this year. Mr. Morrison shares Ms. Gulvas's cosmopolitanism: for the past 24 years

he taught in England. When he was in his native England, Mr. Morrison, in addition to teaching, served as the chief examiner of Drama through London University.

Ann Stern is serving as a College Counselor this year. Mrs. Stern, who grew up in Minnesota, has pursued many different interests throughout her life. Ann received a Bachelor's degree in history from Stanford University, and then completed a Master's degree in Management at Northwestern. In years past, Mrs. Stern, has served as

**(continued on p. 4)**



**Ms. Leslie Gulvas**



**Mr. Malcolm Morrison**



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# News

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## New Faculty

(continued from p. 4)



**Mrs. Ann Stern**  
program counselor in the Office of Career Development at Barnard College in New York.

Wendy Holmgren is teaching Biology this year and working with Jamie Redmond. Mrs. Holmgren attended the University of Illinois, where she majored in Biology, and then returned to Illinois to complete a Master's degree. In the same field, Mrs. Holmgren has done extensive research in Medical Centers at Milwaukee and Northwestern.

Few have stronger roots at MBA than Daniel McGugin, who is serving as an intern at MBA this year. Mr. McGugin is teaching history, working with the football team, and helping some of MBA's tennis prodigies. Having graduated from MBA with the class of 1996, Mr. McGugin has fond memories of his days as a student. He excelled on the tennis court, winning a state doubles title with his twin brother, Bill, and on the football field, where he served as a team captain. Mr. McGugin seems to be continuing his winning ways at MBA; the freshman football team, which he serves as head coach of, recently defeated Centennial High School by forty points.

Adam Michael is serving as

assistant to the music director of the Chicago Symphony, and assistant to the general manager of the Metropolitan Opera in New York. More recently, Mrs. Stern was a senior year

an intern in the same program as Mr. McGugin. Mr. Michael is teaching history this year and expanding MBA's Time to Rise Program. Mr. Michael also has a long history at MBA. He graduated from MBA in 1996 (in the same class as Mr. McGugin) and then went to Duke University to study History.

Daniel Whitfield is another so-called new teacher who is not new to MBA at all. Mr. Whitfield taught at MBA a few years ago, before leaving to venture into the business world and work with the YMCA. Mr. Whitfield is thrilled to be back at MBA. He is teaching Cultural Geography this year and working with many community service programs, as well as heading the Time to Rise Program.

Carole Petrus is also no stranger to MBA. She has seen two sons, Mark and Jay, graduate from MBA, and has a third in ninth grade here. This year there are some new faces among MBA's faculty; eleven new faces to be exact.

There are twelve teachers bring the number of MBA's teachers to 112, and low student to teacher ratio of roughly six students per teacher. But these



**Mrs. Wendy Holmgren**  
in the same field, Mrs. Holmgren has done extensive research in Medical Centers at Milwaukee and Northwestern.



**Mr. Dan McGugin**  
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teachers are more than just faces, each of them has an interesting life story as well.

Mary Hinson is also somewhat familiar with the MBA community. In years past she has taught at Hopton Hall. Mrs. Hinson attended the University of Tennessee

and received a degree in Mathematics. She is teaching Algebra II this year.

So there you have it, the eleven people behind the faces that have arrived at MBA this year. And whether or not they are new to MBA, they all have interesting stories to tell.

## The Bell Ringer

Editor-in-Chief:  
Assistant Editors

Thompson Price  
Michael Piss  
Steven Sverd

Entertainment Editor

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Staff Writers

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Jeffrey Bull, Chris Baumans, Paul Johnson, Zac Hood, Johnathon Marion, Josh Rosenblatt, Ryan Holt, Jeff Sweeney, David Was, Ryan Minan, Will Choppin,

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Adviser

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Letters to the editor are encouraged, and can be given in a member of the editorial staff, or sent to **thebellringer200@hotmail.com**. These letters must be signed, but names will be withheld on request. Letters will be edited for length if necessary.

The staff of **The Bell Ringer** prepares all copy, headlines, and photographs at Montgomery Bell Academy. Eventday Printing in Nashville, Tennessee, prints the paper.

## Hard Work Paying off for Cross Country

by Jeff Sweeney

August 16, 6:00 am. A piercing "yoo hoo" rings down the hall of St. Mary's Seminary. Nineteen sleep-deprived teenagers answer Robert Pruitt's call to rise and do yet another six-mile morning run. While most cannot even fathom running six miles,



Nick Reid pushes on toward the finish line.

let alone at that time in the morning, this is just another day in the life of an MBA cross-country runner. So why do they do it? No one really knows, but judging by the coaching staff, it's probably because they have a few screws loose.

But all in all, the runners would say that they had a good time this year on their annual four-day trip to Sewanee to run twice a day. Because the local excitement consisted entirely of cow-tipping and listening to the milk freezers "moo" as the doors are opened, the team had to find their own way to pass the time. They watched several classic movies, such as *Robin Hood: Men in Tights*, *Office Space*, and *South Park*, and played several fierce beach volleyball tournaments, in which, of course, the Seniors, Coaches, and Walker Duncan team dominated, losing only one game during the day (the night games do not count due to the poor night vision of the elderly). During the week, special guest appearances were made by recent graduates David Pruitt and Will Corbett, Belmont coach Seth Sheridan, new teacher Adam Michael, and even Mr. Gioia himself.

At the first meet, the Drake Invitational, on Tuesday, September 5, MBA once again showed its strength. The team, paced by top finisher Morgan Miller, finished in first place.

That Friday, our top fifteen

finishers in the Drake traveled by plane and bus to Jacksonville, Florida to race against the Bolles School. The runners, drenched in rain, ran through ankle deep puddles and slid one hundred and eighty degrees around muddy corners to defeat the Bolles team on their home course. Top fifteen finishers were: Junior Morgan Miller 1st, Junior Nick Reid 3rd, Sophomore Clayton Trammell 4th, Senior Jeff Sweeney 6th, Junior Brandon Booth 7th, Senior Drew Conrad 8th, Sophomore Nathan Mulherin 9th, Junior Chris Vutsinas 10th, Sophomore Robert Stewart 11th, junior

William Sisk 12th, Sophomore Matt Conrad 14th, and Senior Dan Herring 15th. After running a cool down with Bolles's friendly runners, the cross-country team stood in the rain to cheer on the MBA football team. After enjoying the scintillating conversation of the MBA cheerleaders on the bus ride to the airport, the cross-country team returned to Nashville in high spirits.

With five - Senior Jeff Sweeney, Juniors Brandon Booth, Morgan Miller, and Nick Reid, and Sophomore Nathan Mulherin - of last year's top seven returning, the 2000 MBA cross-country looks even stronger than last year's state runner-up MBA team. Lead by coaches De Young, Pruitt, and Russ, and Seniors Brad Boyd, Drew Conrad, Dan Herring, and Jeff Sweeney, the team expects to have a very successful year. Unfortunately, as of the time of this article, only three freshman, Tony Camarata, Tim Stanton and Phillip Bracikowski, have come out to keep the MBA cross-country legacy alive in later years.

The team would like to thank everyone who has come out to support the team and encourage others to help lead the runners to victory. The MBA team will be competing in two big meets, the Tennessee Classic and A.F. Bridges, in the next two weekends. Watch the announcements for times of races.

## MBA Golf Team Hot on Trail of State Title

By Jeff Young

The MBA golf team is currently closing out the best season it has had in a very, very long time.

Having begun the season with a molestation of Father Ryan at Belle Meade, MBA golf began to gain momentum. Since then, the team has compiled victories against FRA, Beach, Clarksville, Brentwood High, BGA, and others.

The golf team is made up of eleven players this year. Senior leadership is provided by Carter "the monkey" Henderson, Duncan "Soccer Mom" Fort, Miller "Milky White Thighs" Harris, Jeff Young, Graham "Grimace" Worsham, and Edward "Ed" Buchanan. Treat MacCallister, Brett "Knob" Knoll and Will "Where Am I?" Fuqua. John Eason is the lone sophomore and Zane Owens is the lone freshman.

Each match has been

accented by fiery pre- and post-game pep talks by "Coach" Mike Caldwell. It is hard to describe the will to win which each golfer takes to the links after one of his tremendous speeches.

Although MBA still does not have MBA golf shirts, this has not stopped the machine from cranking out victories. We do not have shirts, because Coach Caldwell has yet to order them.

The highlight of MBA golf this season was MBA's victory in the Bruin Invitational. Fifteen teams from around Middle Tennessee came to this tournament and MBA placed first with Carter Henderson capturing the individual title.

MBA hopes to continue their winning ways as the region and state tournaments are upcoming. The MBA golf team would like to thank Coach Caldwell for providing the inspiration needed to keep this team alive.

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# Sports

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## Football Team Pushes on After Disappointing Loss

by Ryan Holt

After a long summer of practice and preparation, the Big Red football team opened its season with two crushing victories over perennial 5A powers Lincoln County and Oakland. Surrounded by the hype and pressures of having a nationally acclaimed quarterback prospect in Ingle Martin, a top ten ranking in more than one national poll, and also brand new first-class facilities, the team responded well and crushed its first two foes 41-7 and 38-15, respectively. With many first-year starters on both sides of the ball, the poise and intensity the Big Red showed in its first two outings held promise for a great season.

In week three, the team traveled down to Chattanooga to face a Baylor team which has vastly improved over the past few years. Since three-year starter Moses Osemwieg was not playing due to a dislocated elbow he got against Lincoln County, the team needed younger players to step up on both offense and defense. In this first away game, the Big Red were started by a long opening drive by Baylor that resulted in a touchdown. Since the first team defense had not yet been scored upon this year, the team took the assault personally and realized that Baylor, although not usually a contender for the state title, had a team with the potential and self-determination to put up a challenging game. Even though the offense was inspired, the team had difficulty moving the ball for the first three quarters. The defense stepped up after the Baylor's first drive, but the score remained 0-7 for the first three quarters. In the fourth quarter however, all the pistons finally began to fire for the Big Red; the offense scored on three straight drives due to great running by Martin and sophomore fullback Blake Goodman. The defense also prevented

Baylor from getting another first down, and an interception by cornerback Steve Ingram on the Baylor thirty yard

line sealed the victory, 23-7.

After the scare at Baylor, the Big Red's intensity level rose as the team prepared for a showdown against the highly regarded Bolles School in Jacksonville, Florida. This trip down to Jacksonville

was the conclusion of a two

during the trip to Chattanooga, the entire team remained mostly silent for the duration of the trip to Florida;

all the players knew that they must concentrate and mentally prepare for the huge game. Unfortunately, torrential rain had been soaking all of Jacksonville for the previous week, and the weather did not promise to be any better on this evening.

As the

game series the coaches set up with Bolles; the other game being last year when MBA defeated the Florida team in a nail-biter at Tommy Owen Stadium. On the Friday of the game, the team was let out of school early in order to make



Leighton (front) and William Liles (back) take a break after a hard fought series.

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On the Friday of the game, the team was

let out of school early in order to make

players took the field, the rain was intense and the field was basically a grassy mud pit. The Big Red started off well early by shocking the Bulldog's offense on their first drive. However, as time progressed, the conditions

sufficient drive to score a touchdown. The loss was devastating for the Big Red not only because it ended the

team's twenty-two game winning streak, but also because the team's high self expectations were shattered by a team it defeated a year ago.

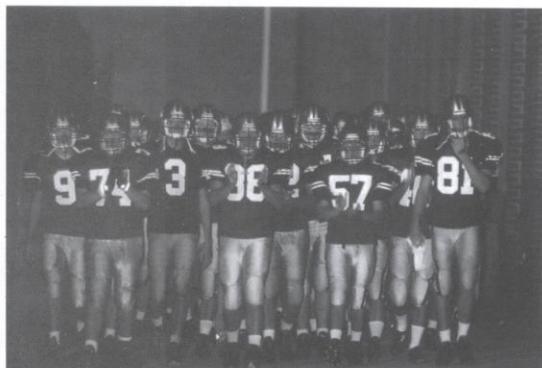
After the loss to Bolles, which has no importance in Division II standings, the team was forced to reanalyze itself and try to find a way to make this year's team

play up to its

full potential. With many key players getting minor injuries during the week of practice, the team did not appear to be at full strength when going into the home game on Friday night against MUS. Tailback and strong safety

Dominique Morris was out with a bruised knee, and many other starters were forced to play in various restraining braces or casts due to their own injuries. With a newfound intensity and determination to redeem the embarrassment from last week's loss, the Big Red came out strong at home against a rather good MUS team. With a few young players stepping up into other player's roles, the team played well in the first quarter and attained a 19-0 lead at the half. Despite a few fumbles and penalties by the offense the Big Red rolled unchallenged to a 25-7 victory over the owls. The team looks forward to this week's game against Pearl-Cohn and encourages as many students to make it out to the game as is possible, because the fans' presence is felt on the field.

The team would like to thank all the fans, families of players, cheerleaders, and coaches, as well as a special thanks to all those involved in arranging and financing the Big Red's trip to Florida. Please come out and support the Big Red football team in its quest for a third straight state championship.



The Big Red football team marches to the game field.

the trip down to Jacksonville. Thanks to certain alumni and the arrangements made by administrators such as Mr. Jackson, the Big Red were fortunate to be flown down to game and eat a first-class meal before game-time. Unlike

seemed to get the better of the Big Red; a total of eleven fumbles for the game tell the story in the 26-3 loss to Bolles. The team, which seemed shaken by both the weather and a few big plays by Bulldog backfielder Antoine Sharp, was never able to put together a

## Titans Still have Questions to be Answered

by Michael Pass

After two games, nobody seems exactly sure what kind of a team the Titans are this year. Is Tennessee a great team that lost to a great Buffalo team and played poorly against the Chiefs, yet managed to win? Are the Titans a mediocre team that lost to Buffalo and pulled out a lucky win against the Chiefs? It's hard to tell whether this year's squad resembles last year's AFC Championship team or the 1998-1999 Oilers team that finished 8-8. There is an abundance of questions, but they will be answered in the near future when the Titans play formidable opponents like the Ravens, the Jaguars, and the Redskins.

The defense has looked pretty good for the most part, although thus far the pass rush hasn't been nearly as dominating as last year. The offense, on the other hand, has looked worse. Against the Bills in Week 1, the running game was all but non-existent, with Eddie George rushing for a total of 11 yards. The passing game did not look pretty either, consisting of mostly short passes to Frank Wycheck and Eddie George for minimal gains. Whether McNair was instructed to only throw it short, or if he decided not to look downfield, is questionable, which brings

up another question. Why are the Titans spending millions on receivers like Yancey Thigpen and Carl Pickens but refusing to throw them the ball? If they don't have the confidence in McNair, then some would say start O'Donnell. The O'Donnell supporters have an even stronger argument.

After the Titan's 20-17 recent game against the Chiefs in week 2,

The majority of the first two quarters in the Chiefs' game was



The Titans line up against the Chiefs D-line.

Tennessee got the ball one last time before the end of the half, leading 7-0. The coaching staff finally decided to be a bit more daring, and instead of running out the clock they looked to put more points on the board.

Unlikely, arguably caused by a ferocious Chiefs' pass rush mixed with poor blocking and a botched pattern by receiver Carl Pickens, McNair threw a costly interception that was run back for a touchdown, tying the game going into the half.

The second half was equally uneventful with few good plays from either team. Then, with the Chiefs leading 14-7, McNair took a blindside hit to the chest and was forced to leave

the game. Backup Neil O'Donnell took the field, and led the Titans on an impressive drive, that resulted in a punt. With only a little over 3 minutes to go, the defense made yet another impressive stand, facilitated by a couple of Chief penalties. On one final drive, O'Donnell made several great throws downfield and then threw a nice pass to Thigpen for the tying touchdown. After winning the overtime toss, the Titans marched downfield and kicker Al Del Greco won the game with a 36-yard field goal.

The Titan's victory, due in large part to the throwing of O'Donnell, is sure to cause controversy at the quarterback position. Granted that McNair is healthy for the Titan's next game in two weeks, they have a bye in week 3; he will be the starter. Fisher will not bench McNair, and shortly after the game he credited the interceptions and lack of passing yardage to bad blocking and faulty patterns run by receivers. Whether or not McNair could have helped the interceptions and poor yardage, one glaring fact is clear. The coaching staff is much more comfortable throwing riskier downfield passes with O'Donnell than with McNair. The Titans' offense may never open up in its full potential as long as McNair is the starter.

## The Time Has Come for the Preds to Win

by Zac Hood and Josh Rosenblatt

The time is now. The Nashville Predators need to start winning hockey games. The first two seasons were fun, but the real fun comes with winning.

Last year, the Preds did claim the title of the winningest 2nd year hockey team ever. All that really means is that they are the best team and is about as exciting as bringing the cutest fat girl to the Prom. Nashville has come to expect a winner from their sports teams with

the emergence of the Titans, hockey could be long forgotten if the Preds fail to produce this upcoming season.

All the excuses are thrown out the door as two years are enough to get organized. The front office has promised a solid program and quality development, and the young guys in development are poised for breakaway years. So look for the Predators to make their move into 2000-2001



While the Stanley Cup may

be a few years away, the foundation has been laid for a respectable season, which should include a trip to the playoffs. The

two major factors that the guys are trying their hardest, but winning is the only care for this season.

Leading the team once again will be the mighty Cliff Ronning, who was spotted at the NBA's, Oaklakeland football game. Apparently, Cliff was in need of inspiration from a solid sports program dedicated to winning. Mike Denham, the goalie, was seen working out hard at the Maryland Farms YMCA. Hopefully, those extra crunches will pay

off when an extra special save is needed. If not, look to our new enforcer Moto. Unlike Cote, he wins



Preds face-off against the St. Louis Blues.

big fights.

With a little luck and some solid work ethic, the Nashville Predators have a bright future to look forward to this season.

## The Sports Point-Counter-Point: What's the Deal, Vandy?

by Ryan Mirian

Vanderbilt is completely hopeless.

Two weeks into the season, and Woody's troops are still winless. In the opener, even with brilliant performances from quarterback Greg Zolman (18-25 for 307 yards and 2 touchdowns) and tight end Elliot Carson (7 catches for 116 yards), the 'Dores couldn't get the "W." A goal-line stand in the final minute failed as the Red Hawks of Miami prevailed. Yes, that's right, Miami won, Miami of Ohio.

Week one's heartbreak gave the players some motivation. But, after totally dominating Alabama the first three periods of the game, a fourth quarter collapse rendered a 28-10 loss. Despite no turnovers and another solid performance from Greg Zolman (12-26 for 172 yards), Vanderbilt players lacked the heart to win after failing to score on two consecutive plays inside the one-yard line.

Disappointing losses are a dime a dozen for Vandy. Last year, they flirted with victory against Alabama, Georgia, and Florida, only to fall short time and again. People were excited about a possible bowl appearance this fall. But, if Vandy can't even win against a team like Miami of Ohio or win the occasional close game, how can they manage the minimum six wins with a loaded schedule?

It's probably better the 'Dores lost early, sparing their fans mental anguish and heartbreak

later down the road. The elusive winning season is lost. At least everyone can get back to their normal lives now and not worry about Vandy winning that



McGrath is stopped behind the line of scrimmage.

by David Was

I Beg To Differ: Woody is Da Man.

This article is written in response to the thoughts of Ryan Mirian. True, Mr. Mirian, a hard-working straight-A student and an avid observer of sports, has brought up some valid points about Vanderbilt football. However, he has failed to take into account factors that make Vanderbilt different from all other schools in the Southeastern Conference.

Any fair-minded evaluation of the lack of success of the program must recognize these differences and the hurdles that confront the Vandy coaching staff.

next "important" game. The coaches spared a lot of unassuming fans from wasting their money on tickets to another depressing finish. After the defeat at Legion Field, Vanderbilt coach Woody Widenhofer said, "We've got 9 games left and also a 10th because we're going to a bowl game. I'll tell you that right now."

I'll tell you that right now, WoodyBall 4 is officially dead. Mark it down, Vandy's only going to win two or three games this year. What's the theme going to be for the 2001 season: WoodyBall 5, We Can't Believe We're This Bad? The 'Dores sure had fun whipping the Citadel 58-0 last year.

Maybe they could beat another Division I-AA team next year? Vanderbilt has a solid tradition that is known throughout America. The

There is something to be said for competing at the highest level of collegiate athletics in the toughest football conference in the nation.

Vanderbilt University maintains an outstanding reputation for excellence in the classroom. In addition, Vanderbilt is the only private school in the SEC; for example, the cost of one scholarship to attend Vanderbilt is

of the first two games.

Proof that the Commodores dearly missed the defensive standouts occurred in the final four minutes of Vandy's heartbreaking loss to Miami of Ohio. The prevent defense full of inexperienced newcomers totally collapsed.

One week later, against highly-touted Alabama, again inexperience and

lack of depth on the defensive side of the ball hurt Vanderbilt's bid for an upset. There is still reason to be optimistic about the remainder of Vanderbilt's season. Head coach

The Alabama defense, which was eventually too much for Vandy, tries to grasp Perkins.

approximately equivalent to the cost of four scholarships to attend the University of Tennessee. Because the cost of scholarships at Vanderbilt far exceeds the cost of scholarships at state schools, Vandy's football program is more expensive to operate.

Now let's address the first sentence of Mirian's argument. He claims that after two narrow losses to start the 2000 campaign, Vanderbilt is completely hopeless. This statement is premature at this early stage of season. Vanderbilt is not the only football team in the United States that has begun 0-2; many other schools are in the same position.

What's more, Vandy played the first two games without its two best defensive players. All-American Jamie Winborn and dangerous, multi-purpose threat Jimmy Williams were suspended by Vanderbilt University itself for breaking NCAA rules. But now they have returned to the roster and are ready to lead the team to victory. Even without the services of Winborn and Williams, Vanderbilt managed to stay in contention for most of the way in each

Woody Widenhofer and the troops are heading into a key stretch of the 2000 season, beginning with an SEC showdown against Ole Miss. Several games highlighted on the schedule are certainly winnable. Don't be surprised - it just might happen - if an up-and-down season culminates in a November 25th upset of Tennessee at Adelphi Coliseum.

It is very easy to give up on a team like Vanderbilt and to jump on the bandwagon of a high-caliber team such as Nebraska or Florida State. Naturally, nobody likes to support a program that has had eighteen consecutive losing seasons. However, the present group of Commodores is different from those of past years. After years of recruiting key players and redshirting others to fit into his system, Widenhofer is currently on his way to building a team that can consistently compete with the best. In the meantime, one thing is certain: even if it does end up on the short end of the score, under the present coach, Vanderbilt will never roll over and play dead for any of its opponents.



## *The Replacements* Is Not a Winner

by Will Choppin

Director Howard Deutch, who dazzled movie-goers with such film sequels (only the sequels) as *Grumpier Old Men* and *The Odd Couple II*, has brought us *The Replacements*. This film is so stupid that almost all of the scenes



intended to be funny instead end up being made fun of by the audience. However, if making fun of dumb scenes in the movie while watching it equals true comic value, then *The Replacements* is the funniest comedy since *Road Trip*.

*The Replacements* is set during the NFL Football Players' Strike that occurred in 1987 (the only believable part of the movie). The owner of The Sentinels is with neither a coach nor any players. So in doing the smartest thing possible, he hires the same coach he once fired for being hard to work with, played by Gene Hackman. Not even such a great veteran actor as himself could save this movie. Anyway, the coach, Jimmy McGinty, demands of the owner complete control of

the interesting team.

Coach McGinty commences his search for the perfect team, and first seeks a certain quarterback: a quarterback played by the ultimate pretty boy with the ultimate pretty-boy name: Keanu Reeves being the former, Shane Falco being the latter. Shane

really doesn't want to get back into football (he used to be QB, but he had quite a mishap in a Sugar Bowl a few years back). Instead, he would rather enjoy his life playing football underwater (which he is doing at the beginning of the film, I promise). The Coach convinces him, however. Among the others on the team are two huge security brothers, a prison convict, an Irish-or-Scottish-or-something-like-that soccer player who sedates himself before playing in each football game, and the 7-Up guy (Orlando Jones), who I must admit does pull through comically in this movie.

I must comment more on old Keanu. This guy may dazzle every female with his stylish good looks, but he cannot act at all! Ranging from such catchphrases as "Uh, what the hell!!" and "Uh, yeah!" and his completely computer-generated vocal skills, he is such a dud. I wonder if he provides the voice for AOL's "You've Got Mail!"

Well, so ends my thoughts on *The Replacements*. I hope that I have spared the lives of 2 or 3 people wanting to see this film. Instead, just go see one of the MBA football games.



Reeves and Hackman, although supported by some good-looking women, fail to impress in this flick.

recruiting for the team, which he attains. Now come in the replacements. From a pretty-boy actor to the 7-Up guy, the coach has gathered together quite an

It's that time of year. Don't waste \$8 on this movie like the producers wasted \$50 million on it. Learning from other people's mistakes is the key idea here.

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## A Reasonable Brief Look at the Cars Around Us Suggestion

by Chris Bateman

A recent example of student activism at MBA might be on the verge of changing a somewhat illogical policy concerning MBA's AP U.S. Government/Comparative Government class and its examinations.

This year's 6th period U.S. Gov/CompGov class was surprised to learn from teacher Mr. Coverstone that they would have to take three exams this year, just as all the U.S. Gov/CompGov classes before them had to. The explanation: US Gov't and Comparative Gov't are each semester-long AP-level classes with separate AP exams. The two courses are generally combined and taught as one year-long class, as is the case at MBA; but because the people at AP don't want to offer exams in both the winter and the spring, students take both of the separate exams in May.

The problem lies in the fact that up to this point Gov/CompGov students have had to take a school exam at the end of the first semester, although they have also had an AP exam for the same semester-long subject. This policy contradicts the school's very fair general policy of exempting students with 85+ averages and the teacher's permission in AP classes from having to take school exams on top of AP exams.

A simpler way of looking at it: Comparative Gov't, the second

...all MBA students can learn from this...what an "exercise in student government, done politically and civilly"...can accomplish.

semester course, has its own AP exam, but a student is not forced to take a second exam in addition to the AP exam if he meets the requirements. This is quite a fair rule. The Gov/CompGov students, however, have had the unique burden of having two exams for one semester-long AP course, and three exams overall for a one-year class, because of the course's structure. One senior and Gov/CompGov student, Ian McDaniel, with the help of classmate Daniel Branscome, has taken it upon himself to correct this flaw concerning exams and exemption from them for AP

by Michael Ross

I'm evaluating many new cars that are coming out. Some of you who know me probably think I'm the last person here who should be talking about cars, since I'm not even going to get my learner's permit until after I graduate. But you don't need to be able to drive any better than Teddy Kennedy to write an article like this. This is about the way these cars look, so all I needed to write this article were two eyes (well, actually one would suffice) and good taste.

-The Toyota Echo- I would never be caught driving one of these no matter how many miles to the gallon you get. It's just that it looks so much like Eric Cartman. And if you think you're going to survive a crash with that tiny, lawnmower-sized engine block being the only thing standing between you and the beautiful '76 Oldsmobile wagon in the picture, think again. Of course, you'd never enjoy the sight because you'd be so busy looking at the gauges, which are cleverly mounted in the center of the dash. Oh, and what kind of pansy name is "Echo," anyway?

-Mitsubishi Eclipse- The new styling on this formerly dull model is, in a word, sweet, and, as the commercial suggests, standing next to someone

students and seniors. Ian is the one responsible for gathering all the information (simply repeated in this article) concerning the contradicting

policies. And, in an example of real activism, his impressive efforts have quickly materialized into an eloquent, organized petition, for which he is currently acquiring signatures from students. Needless to say, the students will probably unanimously approve the petition (I already signed). If the faculty and administration give their consent, the change could go into effect this year.

Moreover, all MBA students can learn from this remarkable story what an "exercise in student government, done politically and civilly," as Ian himself said, can accomplish.

else's, helps weed out the shallow women.

-Toyota Celica- The Celica's new look is a radical, "different" style...that WORKED!!! Usually, I don't like these attempts at uniqueness, but in the Celica's case, it is actually pretty nice.

-2002 Thunderbird- A neat retro design that looks like a Jaguar, but is actually an American roadster. The interior has a nice look to it, too.

-Chevy Suburban- This is a big SUV whose styling is superior to that of those put out by Ford. I have no idea how the word "suburban" fits, but it sure sounds great to me.

-Ford Excursion- I like big cars: I'm like, "Forget fuel economy, I want a car that looks good and can survive a crash." This is one car I'd hate to see Dateline NBC plant a pound of plastique in.

-Lexus LX400- I do not like it when luxury companies put out SUVs, especially disproportionate ones which have haphazardly-shaped grills.

-Pontiac Aztek- You have to be on serious drugs to like the way this thing looks. I think it's a caricature of the First Lady. I also think that the guy who designed this obomination of a car forgot to use Spellcheck when he named it.

-Ford Taurus/Mercury Sable-

By adding a big grill, Ford took a half-way decent-looking car and improved it substantially. Although both cars have a nice outline, the Sable is clearly the nicer of the two.

-Chevy Impala- A really good-looking car whose appearance is somewhat worsened by the fact that they scrapped the previous look, which was much like that of the Caprice, a great car that served as the police car for many years.

-Oldsmobiles- At one time, they were the nicest cars around with their signature double-grills. In 1994, the aesthetically-pleasing Aurora came out. Now some crackhead has decided to scrap the grills and make them all look like Auroras. Despite this, the redesigned and incredibly boring 2001 Aurora has, by far, the coziest-looking interior around.

-Cadillac Deville- A really nice new car. The taillights are made up of many LEDs, making perfect shapes in red for an impressive effect. The side-view outline of this car is incredible and the headlights are easy to get used to.

-Toyota Prius/Honda Insight- Now I'll grant you that electric transportation is a new technology, so it should take years upon years of hard work and research until we can finally have an electric car that looks good.



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# 14 Opinions

## Argument And The Survey Says...

### Argument For A New Publication

by Johnathon Mirian

I am Jose Laponto, radical revolutionary. I am hunted, but I cannot be caught. People are after me, and for good reason. The regime now in power sees me as a threat to its security. However, the people deem me worthy for their companionship. They see what lies within me.

I am a reversist. I want to counteract the flow of our society, of our government, and of our economy. Who are they to say that things must remain at the status quo? Come on! Man by nature is not static! Why should our universe be? Cannot matters change for the better? This is exactly my point.

The incumbents, those fat cats of the west, are disillusioned and deluded. They cannot see what this world really holds because I know that there are people out there just like me, those who see that this once great nation is being driven into an infinite hole of destruction and self-mutilation. Our very institutions, meant to better this nation are, in fact, causing disease and atrophy! Therefore, I, Jose, a radical offspring, must and will create a band of comrades to serve as the vanguard.

Our mission: to transform and revitalize. Our means: the written word. It can be done because it has been done. We will not spout propaganda, but real, truthful, deliberative literature. It will grasp the attention of the citizens. The masses are thirsty, my friends. They are thirsty for change because they have been desiccated in this hell we call the Republic of Ancilla, this capitalistic society in which the bigger bug triumphs over the little bug. Where is the proletarian? He is at the bottom. Where is the rich man?--above!

My goal is my plan: to infiltrate all areas of life. Get the literature there! Make a magazine, completely radical, revolutionary, leftist! We are meant to shock, to enlighten, to turn upside down everything you think you know. We are meant to uncover what is really there and to push aside the fake façade of our daily lives.

Therefore, I call upon you: writers, poets, artists of all nations and races, to come up, and show yourselves

by Michael Pass

There is no doubt that not every opinion of every student on every issue is valid or should be known and considered by the administration. Although students do not always have the best ideas, I do think that the majority opinion of the student body should be considered on a wide array of topics by the administration on a fairly regular basis.

Whether or not the majority student opinion has bearing on every important issue isn't important, but it should, at the very least, be known for a fact by the administration. But the school does take a student survey, right? We just had one in a recent advisory meeting,

didn't we? That's right. MBA gives its students a broad and general survey once every 5 years, and only because if they don't they will lose their accreditation.

Let me repeat that, once every 5 years. That means if you begin MBA as a freshman next year, you will never be formally asked about any of your opinions concerning this school.

Whether or not the administration truly knows how students feel about major topics, no student knows for sure. I don't think that most students really have any idea if and how administrators obtain and evaluate how students will react to new policies, or ones that are already in place. Maybe one day you'll find yourself being asked a casual

as true compatriots to this movement, the true movement. There is going to be a declaration of our doctrine and that declaration will be read and spread. However, it is not just a simple document, but a conglomeration, an aggregate, if you will, of a much larger collection of versatile and new-born

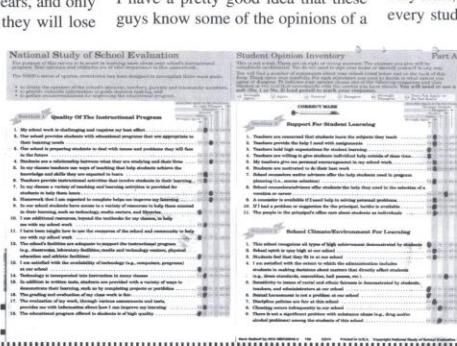
question by an administrator about some specific new policy. This probably won't ever happen to you, and if for some reason you do happen to be part of a select group of students whom the administration would consider consulting, are they really gaining any valuable information about overall student opinion by asking a handful of people?

Of course they are gaining useful information. They're probably consulting school leaders, like student council members, who represent the opinions of the student body as a whole. Student council members must have a clear vision of how everyone is feeling, right? Maybe not. Despite the

to be the ones asking the questions. When was the last time you answered formal questions in writing, about school policies and issues, for the student council? That's right, you never have. Our own student council has never done a formal survey of student opinions on major issues. They are definitely well intentioned, but their passive stance goes something like, "yea, if you have feelings about something important, come talk to one of us." Right, sure thing, guys. Basically, every one around here has important ideas about a lot of things, but we're just at the age where somebody needs to ask us what we're thinking in a structured way in order to obtain any useful knowledge.

I might be completely off base. The administration probably has its own way of

...you may never formally be asked your opinions concerning the school.



SAC evaluation asked an array of questions—some important, some not.

few close friends, and that's about it. We're in high school, unless formally asked, most of us are not going to talk about important school issues with each other. We're going to talk about girls, movies, and sports. To get anything useful out of us, you need

evaluating student opinion that I am just not privy to. Surveys, however, at the very least, would ensure in the mind of every student, that yes, their opinions are being heard. In all honesty, I do think that for the most part, administrators and faculty know what's going on. They do a great job of running this school and I have nothing but respect for them. A student survey, however, could make student opinions more concrete and official. I believe that either the administration needs to give students surveys on a regular basis concerning school policy and issues, or our student council should get on the ball and formally find out what's going on inside the heads of their fellow students. I know that this year's student council sincerely wants to be useful and get things done, and hopefully they will utilize student surveys.

dogmas. It is an eclectic manifesto of leftist or simply philosophical literature which will be read as far as the eye can see and be the talk of the hill we call Montgomery Bell Academy.

So rise, comrades, and join me as we set out to change

the course of time and our own future. Join me in this undertaking of wit and will. Join me in this movement which we call the Montgomery Manifesto.

Contact Comrade J. Mirian  
Party # 222000111

## A Word on This Year's Senior Privileges

by Rick Gotwald

Senior privileges have been a part of MBA for as long as anyone at the school can remember. But the actual length of this tradition doesn't matter. What matters is that they have been in place for as long as I and all the other members of the Class of 2001 have attended MBA.

For three years now we have endured seniority and its consequences. We have struggled through the rigors and adaptations of

...we're three weeks into the school year and we still don't have a senior room.

Freshmen year, through the Sophomore research papers, and even through the pressures of Junior year. But now it is our turn to sit back, be the kings of the hill, and enjoy a very long and well-deserved list of senior privileges.

Now I couldn't say for sure how much fighting seniors in the past have had to go through to claim what is rightfully theirs, but it seems this year that the issue of senior privileges has been drawn out and fought over for too long. All reasonable requests for privileges should be met. There is no reason to have to trade one for the other. All the sudden, we can't cut in the lunch line, which we have been waiting in for at least three years. Apparently, one of the reasons we cannot cut in the lunch line is because

## Why One Should Keep the Libertarians in Mind

by Christopher Schuller

Are you tired of government that on every level inserts itself into your life in the most unpleasant ways? Are you at all bothered by the notion that forty percent of your income goes into the deep pockets of our national and state bureaucracies? Do you wish for freedom from useless, redundant, money-consuming government laws such as youth curfews and illegalized drugs? Do you wish for a return to the personal responsibility and freedom to run our own lives that the United States was founded for?

If you answered yes to any of these questions, the Libertarian Party is the party for you to support. Founded in 1978 by a group of Jeffersonian political scholars, the Libertarian Party is all about restoring government to its constitutional boundaries.

Year after year, the Libertarians



Libertarian Presidential candidate Harry Browne hopes to Influence some Voters in This Year's Election

field largely ignored candidates who

believe in the abolition of our useless government departments (of which there are a lot), and reduction of the government to one that protects us only from violence and coercion. They favor abolition of the income tax, because it would no longer be needed to fund superfluous pencil-pushing projects. They favor repeal of youth curfews, repeal of drug laws, and most of all, increase in freedom and responsibility for every citizen.

This year, Harry Browne is running for president from the Libertarian party. If you believe in your own individual rights, if you believe that government is too big, too powerful, too controlling, then you need to back him, because only a revolutionary can change the old guard and the status quo.

To find out more about the Libertarian Party in Tennessee and around the country, visit their website at [www.lp.org](http://www.lp.org).

not even teachers are allowed to do so.

Honestly, no one must have told them because every day, I wait outside the lunch room while probably eight or ten teachers go straight on through and get their food. Cafeteria workers actually make us wait until they are done! Now I think the teachers should be allowed to go first just as much as they do, but when a teacher who has worked at MBA for maybe half the time that I have attended here, tells me that I have to wait while he goes on, something must be wrong.

And this waiting in line for the period to begin brings me to another point: what difference does it make if we eat lunch at the end of fourth period or at the beginning of fifth? The cafeteria workers can stamp our hand at either time and it was the school's idea to give high schoolers fourth period lunch, anyway.

Moving on, at the time this article was written we are three weeks into the school year and we still don't have a senior room, because no one has moved some boxes out of it for us yet. Any day now, apparently, the Roberts room will be cleaned out. But even when it is, there are only

proctor them.

Now honestly, I am not intending this article to come of as a shot in any way at the school or its rules, but I do intend to for it to be a bit of a reminder to the faculty and administration that we have paid our dues. For going on four years now, we

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no mistakes about it, study halls do become free periods senior year. The school gladly, gives every student Privilege List rights, but tell me this isn't just because there isn't enough room in the study halls or enough teachers to

have given our best and contributed much to MBA. We respect those who run it, and feel that they should respect us in the same way by giving us the privileges we have earned.

# THE BELL RINGER



Vol. 28, No. 1

MONTGOMERY BELL ACADEMY, NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

SEPTEMBER 4, 1981



Ken Nichols



Jean Sorice



Ken Nichols and Jean Sorice speak to reporters after escaping from captivity in the woods. Noting their tattered appearance after being chained in separate trees for three days, Jean suggested that the couple should "do a detergent commercial."

## MBA GRAD, CHEERLEADER EMERGE UNSCATCHED FROM ORDEAL

by Tom Wood

MBA graduate Ken Nichols and cheerleader Jean Sorice are safe at home now, seeking to resume normal lifestyles following a chilling, 48-hour kidnapping drama.

The ordeal for the couple began after Mike Blackmon's 19th birthday party on Saturday, August 8. Ken and Jean were saying goodbye to his car, parked in his St. John's Lane home, when a masked gunman leaped into the bushes of the 15-year-old's 1978 Olds Delta 35 and ordered him to drive toward Cheatham County. The couple was led to a remote hillside in southern Cheatham County and kidnapped to trees in snake- and insect-infested woods.

The kidnappers' families became alarmed when they failed to return home Sunday, and their fears were realized when a note demanding a \$60,000 ransom was found taped to a Caddie in a driveway on West Tree Boulevard. The kidnappers had reportedly intended to abduct Jean's stepson and ask for \$300,000 dollars (sic). Her stepfather, 70 Nashville businessman Jack Blane, who was the government's chief witness in the conspiracy trial of former Governor Ray Blanton and two aides, A portion of the ransom note, written in Jean's own hand read, "Blane, this is punishment, there are people that hate you (sic). That is why I'm (sic)."

Because of the connection with the Blanton trial, the disappearance received a tremendous amount of attention from the press. The media, however, did not report the case as a kidnapping at the request of the police, who feared for the couple's safety if the public's attention was focused on the case. When Nichols' car was found burnt, however, it was evident to all that the couple had been abducted.

The reaction from their associates was one of shock and deep concern. Jean's friends delivered flowers to her distraught mother, Mrs. Kathryn Hunt. Ken's friends, including Kevin Darley, Earl Bradley, David Ture, Jerry Cashin, and Don Brinkley, kept a 24-hour vigil with the Nichols family at their Hillside Drive home. On Saturday, Ture drove over a large part of the Davidson-Williamson County area in his father's private airplane at his own expense searching for the car.

The ransom note possessed a complicated system of delivery of the cash, and Jean's father, Assistant Metro Police Chief John Sorice, made the first attempt at a dropoff on Monday night. Sorice and Jean's uncle, Lt. John Ross, found down the Cumberland River in a drift with Ross hidden in the hold. Kevin Darley, however, prevented them from making contact with the kidnappers.

Meanwhile, Jean and Ken

remained shackled to the trees, with only a few candy bars and two jugs of water for sustenance. Then on Tuesday, Jean discovered that she could tick the kidnapper's list letting her husband's lock to the tree after she had been briefly unshackled. Using a trick her father taught her, she pried the cuffs on loosely enough to be able to slide her small hand through them. But she stayed with Ken, fearing that he would be endangering if she ran away.

Tuesday night, an exhausted John Sorice tried again to make a ransom; this time he was to walk down a lonely trail track beside Gallatin carrying a lantern and the \$60,000 dollar bill. This he did for several hours, but to no avail. Sorice, exhausted and frustrated, went home to sleep for the first time in several days.

A phone call to the Nichols' home at about 4:00 Wednesday morning informed the sleepless family that the second drop had failed. "The man at that time was one of frustration," said Kevin Darley. "After the first drop (sic) he was worried, we knew they would try to get their money again. But after the second time there wasn't much we could do except sit and wait and hope and pray."

Those prayers were soon answered. The older Sorice was roused from his brief and restless sleep at 10:30 Wednesday morning by a phone call informing him that his daughter was safe and...

## New Teachers Complement MBA Faculty

By Robert Conney

There are six new faces among the faculty for this year. Two of them, however, are returning to MBA after having been a part of our continuity in the past. One arrived on the faculty in the early 70's. The other is an MBA alumnus. Also among the six new faculty members is the school's third speech and debate coach in as many years. Rounding out this group of a new science teacher, a new Latin teacher, and a new English teacher.

Mr. Bobby Morel is returning to MBA after having taught here in 1972-73. He will have to give up family business but he has now decided to return to teaching. Mr. Morel, a graduate of Tennessee, will be teaching 7th grade social studies.

Mr. Joe Palermo, another UT graduate, will teach high school English. At the University of Tennessee he received his BA and his MA. Before moving to Nashville, he taught for eight years at Farragut High School in Knoxville.

MBA alumnus Dennis Regan is another one of the new faces among the faculty. After graduation from MBA, Regan

received his BA from Vanderbilt. He has most recently completed a five year teaching stint at Franklin High Academy. Mr. Regan is the older brother of Ross Regan, who was a member of the class of '80. A multi-talented individual he will be teaching mathematics and coaching. His coaching duties will include football, wrestling, and baseball.

Mr. John Sardakies will be teaching science and math at the high school and coaching younger teams. Mr. Sardakies has his BS from the University of the South and has been doing graduate work in Florida.

A fifth member of the new faculty will be Mr. Jack Stevenson. Mr. Stevenson graduated from Vanderbilt where he received his BA. Here at MBA, Mr. Stevenson will teach Latin.

Mr. Tom Sullivan is the new speech and debate coach. Mr. Sullivan has a BS from the University of Wisconsin and is coming to us from Stewart Academy in New Jersey. He has taught at Lakewood High School in New York state and Prep 20 high school in Milwaukee. Headmaster Gordon Blodget said that Mr. Sullivan comes to us highly recommended and he should be a fine asset to the speech and debate

program. The choice of Sullivan is especially important considering MBA's tradition of excellence in this area.

Mr. Sardakies had words of praise for each new member of the faculty. The headmaster feels that each of the new faculty will be an asset to MBA.

The addition of the six faculty will replace those members of last year's faculty who did not return while adding one additional member to the faculty. A new position has been created in the science department in an effort to reduce the size of the science classes. Many of these classes were terribly overcrowded last year.

From the Editors of the Bell Ringer. With this issue, The Bell Ringer embarks on a new era of responsible journalism. We the Editors intend to make YOUR student newspaper a publication which meets the standard of excellence which epitomizes Montgomery Bell Academy. Compare this issue with the first issue last year. See the difference? Last year's inane, tasteless "filler" stories, stale



MBA's new faculty members (L. to R.): Mr. Tom Sullivan, Mrs. Jo Palermo, Mr. Bobby Morel, Mr. John Sardakies, Mr. John Stevenson, Mr. Dennis Regan.

writing, and dead news are so gone, and we intend to halt the literary decline which has characterized this publication for several years. We hope you will find it informative, and maybe even amusing. We want the student body, faculty, and administration to consider this an open invitation: we welcome your contribution in the form of letters to the Editor, articles, or photographs.

This year, there will be a new publication at MBA, a literary magazine. Robert Conney and Kevin Drury will be editors. They have been working several months on the magazine and need your support. So, write a story or a poem, or submit a photograph or drawing. Contests for this material will be announced soon, as well as a contest using the magazine. Additionally, the magazine is looking for people who can type or help with layout.